

## ABSTRACT

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A method and system for effective utilization of data storage capacity on storage resources of a communicatively coupled network system involves the creation of a data storage architecture that provides for a dynamic, percentage based segmentation of 'total installed capacity' or 'available/unused storage capacity' on all or selected nodes on the network system into dedicated and shared storage segments. The storage architecture also employs a centralized file server directly in the path of a distributed network file system in the preferred operating mode, where the centralized server acts uniquely as a host of original data and also as a back-up device.